

**IN THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE**

International Application No. : PCT/EP00/06580  
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Priority Date(s) Claimed : 12 AUGUST 1999  
Applicant(s) (DO/EO/US) : BUG, Joachim, et al.

Title: ORAL FORM OF ADMINISTRATION CONTAINING PROBIOTIC MICRO-ORGANISMS

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to calculating the national fee, and prior to examination in the National Phase of the above-identified International application, please amend as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

3. (Amended) The tablet according to claim 1, characterized in that the probiotic microorganisms are lactobacilli, bifidus bacteris, or streptococci, preferably Lactobacillus casei, Lactobacillus acidophilus, Bifidobacterium bifidum, Bifidobacterium longum, and/or Lactobacillus plantarum.

4. (Amended) The tablet according to claim 1, characterized in that it contains from  $10^3$  to  $10^{12}$ , preferably from  $10^5$  to  $10^{11}$ , more preferably from  $10^7$  to  $10^{10}$  probiotic microorganisms.

5. (Amended) The tablet according to claim 1, characterized in that the enteric coating essentially consists of shellac or of shellac and polyvinylpyrrolidone.